Dear PCOR Partnership Members,

It has come to our attention that The Canadian Press has published an article regarding the Weyburn sequestration project in southern Saskatchewan.

At this time, we are just beginning to look into these reports and offer the attached prepared statement from the highly respected Petroleum Technology Research Centre (PTRC) in Regina. Our initial response is that it is HIGHLY unlikely that The Canadian Press article and the Petro-Find Geochem report mentioned therein accurately portray anything at Weyburn.

We are continuing to monitor the situation very closely and will provide any updates from PTRC to you as they become available to us.

Thank you for your patience.

Sincerely,

John Harju
Associate Director for Research
Energy & Environmental Research Center, University of North Dakota

Ed Steadman
Senior Research Advisor/PCOR Partnership Program Manager
Energy & Environmental Research Center, University of North Dakota

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The International Energy Agency's Greenhouse Gas Weyburn-Midale CO2 Monitoring and Storage Project has been involved in measuring and monitoring injection of CO2 into the Weyburn and Midale oilfields in Southeastern Saskatchewan since the year 2000.

As part of this research, an extensive program of sampling soil gases and shallow water wells across the CO2 injection area has been undertaken for almost 10 years. Baselines for CO2 in the soils and wells were taken in multiple locations starting in July, 2001, prior to any injection, and several surveys have been repeated periodically since injection began. The soil gas surveys were conducted by independent research organizations including the British Geological Survey, BRGM (French Geological Survey), and INGV (Italian Geological Survey). These tests (some of which are available in the First Phase Report on the PTRC's website at http://www.ptrc.ca/siteimages/Summary_Report_2000_2004.pdf) all have indicated that soil gases sampled are in the normal range for these soil types given variations in organic matter content, moisture, temperature and seasonal variations. No evidence of CO2 originating from the 1.5 km deep Midale Reservoir (the geological unit at the Weyburn Field) has been observed in any of these surveys undertaken by these international scientific organizations. Similarly shallow well water samples taken repeatedly throughout this study over 10 years have not indicated any evidence of CO2 from the deep geological reservoir.

The report *Geochemical Soil Gas Survey* conducted by Paul Lafleur of Petro-Find Geochem, Ltd and submitted to Cameron and Jane Kerr is currently in the process of review by the PTRC. A response to this report will be provided once it has been thoroughly reviewed.

In summary, through its extensive measurement and monitoring program – undertaken in co-operation with researchers from tens of organizations including Canadian and international universities, independent research institutions, consultancies, and government agencies – PTRC has never identified a leak of CO2 into the biosphere or soil in the Weyburn-Midale field area, nor in selected sample locations beyond it.

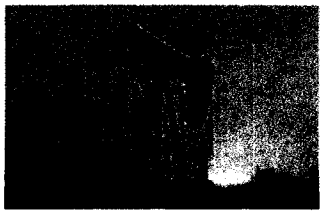
Many of the results related to the final phase of the IEA GHG Weyburn-Midale CO2 Monitoring and Storage project are a matter of public record in the scientific literature that has been published and presented at conferences and workshops. A Best Practices Manual, which will help guide other projects in the safe storage of CO2 in depleted oil fields, will be released by the end of 2011. For more information on the Weyburn-Midale project visit the PTRC's website and publications at www.ptrc.ca/publications.php

Plains CO_2 Reduction (PCOR) Partnership

Practical, Environmentally Sound CO_2 Sequestration

About the Partnership

The Plains CO_2 Reduction (PCOR) Partnership is a multiyear collaboration of over 80 U.S. and Canadian stakeholders that is laying the groundwork for practical and environmentally sound carbon dioxide (CO_2) sequestration projects in the **PCOR Partnership Region** in the heartland of North America. Meet the **PCOR Partnership Partners**.



Phase I - PCOR Partnership Program - In the fall of 2003, the PCOR Partnership embarked on a 2-year, $3.3 million Phase I program focused on characterizing sequestration opportunities in the region.

Phase II - PCOR Partnership Program - In the fall of 2005, the PCOR Partnership launched its 4-year, $21 million Phase II program focused on **carbon sequestration field validation projects**. The Phase II sequestration field projects are designed to build the core of local technical expertise and experience needed to facilitate future large-scale CO_2 sequestration efforts in the region's subsurface and terrestrial settings. **See the Phase II prospectus (337 KB PDF).**

Phase III - PCOR Partnership Program - In the fall of 2007, the PCOR Partnership was selected for a 10-year, multimillion dollar Phase III program focused on implementing two commercial-scale geologic carbon sequestration demonstration projects in the region. **More on Phase III.**

The PCOR Partnership is led by the Energy & Environmental Research Center at the University of North Dakota. Meet the **PCOR Partnership Team.**

The PCOR Partnership is one of seven regional partnerships under the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), Office of Fossil Energy, National Energy Technology Laboratory's (NETL) **Regional Carbon Sequestration Partnership (RCSP) Program.**

Membership in the PCOR Partnership provides unique opportunities to develop working relationships with stakeholders that represent a diverse cross section of CO_2 producers, end users, environmental groups, and regulators. **Become a partner!**